UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

Samuel Richardson,		: :
	Plaintiff,	: Civil Action No.:
V.		:
Credit Control LLC; and DOES 1-10, inclusive,		: :
Defendants.	D. C 1	:
	: :	
		:

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, Samuel Richardson, says by way of Complaint against Defendant, Credit Control LLC, as follows:

JURISDICTION

- 1. This action arises out of Defendant's repeated violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.* ("FDCPA"), and the invasions of Plaintiff's personal privacy by Defendant and its agents in their illegal efforts to collect a consumer debt.
- 2. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over all other claims in this action, as all such claims arise out of the same case or controversy as Defendant's violations of the FDCPA pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 3. Venue is proper in the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), as Defendant transacts business in the State of New Jersey.

PARTIES

4. The Plaintiff, Samuel Richardson ("Plaintiff"), is an adult individual residing in Hillside, New Jersey, and is a "consumer" as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).

- 5. Defendant Credit Control LLC ("Credit Control"), is a Missouri business entity with an address of 5757 Phantom Drive, Suite 330, Hazelwood, Missouri 63042, operating as a collection agency, and is a "debt collector" as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).
- 6. Does 1-10 (the "Collectors") are individual collectors employed by Credit Control and whose identities are currently unknown to the Plaintiff. One or more of the Collectors may be joined as parties once their identities are disclosed through discovery.
 - 7. Credit Control at all times acted by and through one or more of the Collectors.

ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COUNTS

A. The Debt

- 8. The Plaintiff allegedly incurred a financial obligation (the "Debt") to GE Money Bank (the "Creditor").
- 9. The Debt arose from services provided by the Creditor which were primarily for family, personal or household purposes and which meets the definition of a "debt" under 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).
- 10. The Debt was purchased, assigned or transferred to Credit Control for collection, or Credit Control was employed by the Creditor to collect the Debt.
- 11. The Defendants attempted to collect the Debt and, as such, engaged in "communications" as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

B. Credit Control Engages in Harassment and Abusive Tactics

12. On July 12, 2013, Credit Control contacted Plaintiff in an attempt to collect the Debt and left a voice message. The same day Plaintiff called Credit Control back to inquire about the Debt.

- 13. During the initial conversation with Plaintiff, Credit Control advised Plaintiff that a legal action was about to be filed against Plaintiff and an immediate payment was need in order to stop legal proceeding. In fact, no such legal action has been filed against Plaintiff to date.
- 14. Credit Control spoke with Plaintiff in a loud and aggressive manner in an effort to intimidate Plaintiff into making an immediate payment.

C. Plaintiff Suffered Actual Damages

- 15. The Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer actual damages as a result of the Defendants' unlawful conduct.
- 16. As a direct consequence of the Defendants' acts, practices and conduct, the Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer from humiliation, anger, anxiety, emotional distress, fear, frustration and embarrassment.
- 17. The Defendants' conduct was so outrageous in character, and so extreme in degree, as to go beyond all possible bounds of decency, and to be regarded as atrocious, and utterly intolerable in a civilized community.

COUNT I

VIOLATIONS OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq.

- 18. The Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 19. The Defendants' conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692d in that Defendants engaged in behavior the natural consequence of which was to harass, oppress, or abuse the Plaintiff in connection with the collection of a debt.

- 20. The Defendants' conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e in that Defendants used false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of a debt.
- 21. The Defendants' conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(5) in that Defendants threatened to take legal action, without actually intending to do so.
- 22. The Defendants' conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(10) in that Defendants employed false and deceptive means to collect a debt.
- 23. The foregoing acts and omissions of the Defendants constitute numerous and multiple violations of the FDCPA, including every one of the above-cited provisions.
 - 24. The Plaintiff is entitled to damages as a result of Defendants' violations.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays that judgment be entered against the Defendants:

- Actual damages including, but not limited to, the emotional distress the
 Plaintiff has suffered (and continues to suffer) as a result of the intentional,
 reckless, and/or negligent FDCPA violations and intentional, reckless, and/or
 negligent invasions of privacy pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(1);
- 2. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k(a)(2)(A);
- Costs of litigation and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C.
 § 1692k(a)(3);
- 4. Liquidated damages;
- 5. Punitive damages; and
- 6. Such other and further relief that the Court may deem just and proper.

TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED ON ALL COUNTS

Dated: August 5, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

By: <u>/s/ Sofia Balile</u>

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